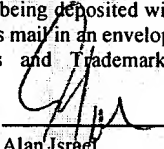


#11
Docket No.: P/61209/BAE

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:
January 11, 2001
(date)

Alan Israel
Reg. No. 27,564

In re: Application of : David Stewart Nimmo WATSON

Serial No. : 09/529,201 Group Art Unit: 2871

Filed : May 18, 2000 Examiner: W. Sikes

For : IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING
TO LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAYS
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
SPECIAL PROGRAM CENTER

New York, New York
January 11, 2001

PETITION FOR ACCELERATED EXAMINATION
UNDER M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

NOW COMES the applicant, by his attorney, Alan Israel, Reg. No. 27,564, and respectfully requests that this application be granted special status for accelerated prosecution under the provisions of M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII). The following facts are set forth in support of this petition:

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1. This proceeding has been properly initiated by the submission of a written petition to make special.

2. All of the claims in the application, as set forth in the accompanying Second Preliminary Amendment, are directed to a method of manufacturing a custom-made liquid crystal display. There is a total of 20 claims. Claim 33 is the only independent claim. The remaining claims 34-52 are dependent on parent claim 33.

3. All of the claims relate to a single invention.

4. Submitted herewith is a statement concerning the pre-examination searches that were made, specifying by whom the searches were made, listing the field of search, listing the patents found on the searches, and discussing in detail the references located in the searches, which discussion points out with the particularity required by 37 C.F.R. 1.111(b) and (c) how the claimed subject matter is distinguishable over the references found on the searches.

5. Accompanying this Statement is a copy of each of the references found on the searches that were not previously of record, as well as the Rule 17(i) petition fee of \$130.00.

WHEREFORE, a favorable action on the Petition for accelerated examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRSCHSTEIN, OTTINGER, ISRAEL & SCHIFFMILLER, P.C.

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

489 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10017-6105

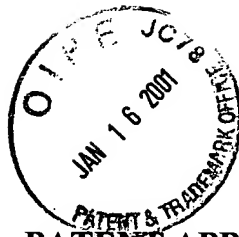
Tel: (212) 697-3750

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Alan Israel


Registration No. 27,564



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PATENT APPLICATION

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In re: Application of : David Stewart Nimmo WATSON
Serial No. : 09/529,201 Group Art Unit: 2871
Filed : May 18, 2000 Examiner: W. Sikes
For : IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING
TO LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAYS

New York, New York
January 11, 2001

**STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING PETITION FOR
ACCELERATED EXAMINATION UNDER M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned states that novelty searches were made relating to the subject matter of the above captioned application.

The first search was made by the European Patent Office and was completed on November 24, 1998. The fields searched and the documents considered to be relevant were set forth in the International Search Report of record. A copy of those documents and PTO Form-1449 were submitted to the U.S. Patent Office on April 6, 2000.

A second search was conducted by the United Kingdom Patent Office and was completed on October 22, 1998. The fields searched and the documents considered to be relevant were set forth in the United Kingdom Search Report of record. A copy of those documents and PTO Form-1449 were submitted to the U.S. Patent Office on June 30, 2000.

Still other patents were brought to the applicant's attention, namely:

1. Japanese Patent No. 8-76074;
2. United Kingdom Patent No. 2,269,910;
3. United Kingdom Patent No. 2,064,843;
4. International Patent No. WO 95/9587;
5. United States Patent No. 5,492,582;
6. United States Patent No. 5,164,853.

These other patents are listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449, and a copy of each listed patent is enclosed.

The following is a discussion which points out with the particularity required by 37 C.F.R. §1.111(b) and (c) how the subject matter of the above referenced application as claimed is distinguishable over the above references.

Before turning to the references, the claimed invention is directed to a method of manufacturing a custom-made liquid crystal display from a finished liquid display, i.e., one that has already been manufactured with a liquid crystal sealingly contained in a space between two plates. The finished display has a display area larger than the display area desired for the custom-made area. Hence, an excess area is removed from the larger display area.

Turning first to the references cited in the International Search Report:

U.S. Patent No. 5,812,226 describes a liquid crystal display formed by interconnecting individual panels placed on a large substrate.

U.S. Patent No. 5,808,719 describes a liquid crystal display for displaying an image on a large screen by joining individual panels.

Japanese Patent No. 8-146444 was considered relevant by the European Examiner and, to assist the U.S. Examiner, an English language translation of the entire patent is enclosed. This Japanese patent discloses a method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display in the first instance, and not a method of removing an excess area from a "finished" display, i.e., one that has already been manufactured. This Japanese method involves allowing the liquid crystal to flow from panel portion 1 to panel portion 2. However, the liquid crystal in applicant's finished display is sealingly contained in, and extends to all the peripheral edge regions of, the finished display.

Japanese Patent No. 06-003633 describes another method of manufacturing a liquid crystal device, but not for modifying a finished display to obtain a custom-made display.

Japanese Patent No. 8-122769 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,812,226 discussed above.

Japanese Patent No. 0-1048024 described the assembly of a liquid crystal display from a plurality of smaller displays.

Japanese Patent No. 59-008632 discloses a method of cutting flat glass.

International Patent No. WO-93/11452 discloses a flat panel display whereby each picture element acts as its own projector.

Turning now to the references found in the United Kingdom Search Report:

U.S. Patent No. 5,278,685 relates to a method of dividing substrates using repeated measurements.

U.S. Patent No. 4,275,494 relates to another method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display.

European Patent No. 0 556 855 relates to a method of manufacturing a large size display from smaller panels.

Turning now to the references listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449:

Japanese Patent No. 8-76074 discloses another method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display.

United Kingdom Patent No. 2,269,910 discloses a liquid crystal cell cluster whose cells are filled by immersion in liquid crystal under vacuum.

United Kingdom Patent No. 2,064,843 discloses the abutment of two liquid crystal display panels to form a large-area panel.

International Patent No. WO 95/19587 discloses the manufacture of a liquid crystal display on an improved support.

U.S. Patent No. 5,492,582 discloses another manufacturing technique involving the interconnection of multiple display panels.

U.S. Patent No. 5,164,853 discloses still another composite display panel made from multiple panels.

In summary, not a single reference teaches the manufacture of a custom-made display from a finished display as claimed.

Inasmuch as none of the references discussed above discloses the claimed features of applicant's invention, it is therefore respectfully urged that the claims of the present invention are quite clearly patentable thereover. A copy of the references not already of record are enclosed with accompanying Form PTO-1449.

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRSCHSTEIN, OTTINGER, ISRAEL & SCHIFFMILLER, P.C.

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